

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE

(ESTABLISHED 1877)

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One Dollar per Year,
Invariably in Advance.Six months, 75 cents. No subscription for a
less period received.

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Tribune has many volunteer canvassers, and they
are generally honest and faithful; but persons who
confide their subscriptions to them must be their own
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be changed as often as desired, but each subscriber
should in every case give the old as well as the new address.
In renewing, subscribers should be careful to send us the
label on the last paper received, and specify any cor-
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from every section in regard to Grand Army, Pen-
sion, Military, Agricultural, Industrial and Household
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prompt attention. Write on ONE SIDE of the paper
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Washington, D. C.

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THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., DECEMBER 6, 1888.

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premium by any paper. Its works and its case
are of the highest class, and cannot fail to give
satisfaction. We will send one watch for every
15 subscribers, and we have such confidence in
it that, upon examination, the watch does not
prove satisfactory, it may be returned and we
will refund the money. This is an unprece-
dented opportunity to obtain a first-class
watch, and we hope our subscribers will avail
themselves of it. But little effort is required
to raise a club of 15 subscribers. Any active
boy or young man can do it in a short time.

SAMPLE COPIES.

Any non-sub-
scriber into whose
hands a copy of this
week's issue of THE
NATIONAL TRIBUNE shall come, will under-
stand that it is sent to him for examination.
We ask that he or she will look over it care-
fully, note its many special features, and com-
pare it with other weekly fire-side papers. We
are very sure that if they do this they will
find it to be superior in interest and attrac-
tiveness to any and all of them. It is beyond
question the best weekly family paper in the
whole country. It has more distinguished
contributors, and a greater array of valuable
reading matter, than any of them.How happy the New York Times, Herald
and the Evening Post would be to get up an
edition in the G.A.R.! They are doing all
they can to make it appear there is great dis-
cord there. Every disgruntled man who is
anxious to see his name in print, can get in-
stantaneous access to their columns for any-
thing that he wants to say against the Or-
der.GEN. PALMER'S withdrawal from the
Grand Army of the Republic will hurt the
Order as little as his withdrawal from the Re-
publican party hurt that party.WHAT did Gen. H. W. Slocum ever do for
the G.A.R. that it should have given him
the highest office in its gift merely upon his
coming forward and making a demand for it?GEN. SLOCUM talks about partisanship in
the G.A.R., and yet he is the only man who
ever made a canvass for the Commander-in-
Chiefship on partisan grounds.ONE good thing that raises our opinion
of Gen. Harrison still higher is that when
in the Senate he favored the admission of
the "State of Dakota"—meaning that portion south of the 46th
parallel—the remainder to be called the
"Territory of Lincoln." Now that the peo-
ple of Dakota are sure of receiving their
long-deferred right of admission into the sis-
terhood of States, we hope that they will
not insist upon inflicting on the people
the stupidity of "North" and "South" Da-
kota. Let them call one of their States Da-
kota and the other some euphonious and ap-
propriate Indian name. The country is ter-
ribly weary of these "North's," "South's,"
"East's," "West's," "New's" and "Old's" on
our map, and wants no more of them.

STAND FIRM!

Comrades, let us stand with unyielding
firmness for no reduction of the revenue
until proper pension legislation is passed and
its expenditures provided for.This is all-important. If the revenue is
allowed to be reduced before this, we can bid
a long farewell to any prospect of further
legislation such as we desire. The revenue
to-day is no more than is needed to provide
for the proper expenditures of the Govern-
ment, for the payment of the rapidly-mat-
uring bonds, and for such outlay for pen-
sions as all comrades think should be
made.No interest of the country demands a re-
duction of the revenue. On the other hand,
the best and greatest require the main-
tenance as it is until certain great public
objects are accomplished.The veterans of the country, in addition
to the sacrifices of their services in the army,
came home and endured cheerfully the most
onerous taxation in order to pay off the
money-lenders to the last cent of the letter
of their contracts. Certainly the country
can now continue this taxation, which op-
presses no one, long enough to pay the sol-
diers what in honor and justice is due them.

Let the motto be—

No tinkering with the revenue until the coun-
try's debts to the soldiers are paid.

SOUND THE ATTACK.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE is the only
paper of any extended circulation or in-
fluence that is advocating the cause of the
soldiers with persistence and determination.
Other papers may make pretense of so doing,
but their advocacy is flimsy and flagging.
They are ready at any moment to ignore the
old soldier and his interests when anything
of more importance comes up, and generally
there is something of more importance—to
them—than the men who saved the country
more than a score of years ago. They have
only a passing interest in pension legislation,
they constantly have candidates for place
that they prefer to veterans, and their con-
cern about the success of any measure for
the benefit of soldiers is of the mildest
character. There is no telling what moment
that, at the demand of private interests or
party policy, they may abandon and even
oppose measures and men dear to the
veteran's heart.It is totally different with THE NATIONAL
TRIBUNE. It has no cause but that of the
veterans; it has no constituency but they
and those connected with them. It has no
party to serve, no clique to support. No po-
litical influence it, no caucus dictates to it.
It is for the soldiers, first, last, and all the
time, without regard to what the policies of
the Republican, Democratic, Prohibition or
other parties may be. It is as ready to an-
tagonize one party or set of politicians as an-
other when they are indifferent or hostile to
the veterans.THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE is intensely in-
terested in securing the early passage of just
and liberal pension legislation. It has framed
the most liberal pension bill ever
formulated, and it will never relax its efforts
until that bill becomes a law, and every
man who wore the blue honorably is in re-
ceipt of a pension which will be an honor-
able acknowledgment by the country of the
value of his services in rescuing her from
destruction. It will not cease its vigorous
battling until every disabled veteran is pen-
sioned in proportion to his disability, and
every veteran's widow, orphan or dependent
parents are placed on the pension roll at a
rate which will insure their comfortable
support.This is the banner under which we have
enlisted for the war. Every issue will force
the fighting vigorously, encourage the friends
in and out of Congress who are battling for
us, attack our enemies wherever they may be
found, exhort the lukewarm, and de-
nounce the skulkers and bushwhackers.Come in, comrades, and join us. This is a
fight for all of us.

THE G.A.R. PENSION COMMITTEE.

Commander-in-Chief Warner has done
admirably in his appointment of the Na-
tional G.A.R. Pension Committee.Gen. George S. Merrill, the Chairman, is
continued. There is no able man in the
Order than he, and no one so well versed,
by reason of his long experience, with pension
legislation. He is an invaluable man in the
position.Comrades Tanner, Koonitz and Burst, who
have heretofore served so acceptably, have
been continued. Past Commander-in-Chief
Lewis Wagner was so burdened with his
multifarious and exceedingly important
duties as Commissioner of Public Works of
Philadelphia that he could not spare the
time for longer service on the committee.
Very much of the valuable time and service
he has given it have been at serious cost and
inconvenience to himself, so he was replaced
by Comrade Richard Blue, of Kansas, an
able and zealous man.The Grand Army of the Republic is
sublimely indifferent to the wallings of dis-
gruntled politicians, whether they be Demo-
cratic, Republican, or what not. It is not
going to read its unsullied banner to make
bandages for their aching hurts.ALL the clatter about "partisanship" in
the G.A.R. comes from men outside of the
Order. Those inside it know how free it is
from such an imputation.

"DISRUPTING THE G.A.R."

The soldier-hating papers of New-York,
Boston, Baltimore and elsewhere have been
bristling with "scurrilous" like the above
for the past 10 days, and their editorials
have chuckled with "ghoulish glee" at the
prospect of such a consummation.The occasion was the withdrawal of Gen.
John M. Palmer from the G.A.R. in a fit of
pique, following his defeat for Governor of
Illinois, and a sounding pronouncement
from a man named Koonitz, whom the pa-
pers assume to be a high officer of the
G.A.R., but who really holds no position in
the Order, his title being derived from the
militia of Indiana. This was the telegram
he sent the papers:About 1,200 Democratic veterans, members of
the G. A. R. Posts scattered over the State of
Indiana, last night a secret meeting, at which it was resolved that every Demo-
cratic member of the G. A. R. should abandon the
Order, and all present pledged themselves to
withdraw from their Posts. Adj. Gen. Koonitz
presided. A name and a constitution for the new
Order proposed by the Democratic veterans were
adopted.The new Order is to be charitable and non-political
in character. On Wednesday evening, then, when
the reasons for deserting the G. A. R. will be
given and the principles and objects of the new
Order laid before the public. Adj. Gen. Koonitz
says similar meetings will be held all over the State
within the next week.Gen. Koonitz said that he had letters from men
in eight States, indicating that the movement is
national. Among the letters received was one
from John A. Worman, Secretary of the Demo-
cratic Soldiers' Union, of Pennsylvania, in which
every Democratic soldier in Pennsylvania will
leave the Grand Army of the Republic. The Pres-
ident of the Societies, who ran against Beaver
for Governor, is at the head of the movement in Pen-
sylvania.Thereupon all the papers inimical to the
Grand Army of the Republic set to work to
develop the "defection" and furnish evi-
dence that it was so widespread and irrecon-
cilable as to insure the disruption and down-
fall of the Order. Among them they cov-
ered the country pretty thoroughly, and
about every Democrat of prominence in the
Grand Army was interviewed on the man-
ner. The New York and Boston papers had
from one to three columns a day on the sub-
ject. The result of the search brought them
very little comfort. The "defection" was
found to be almost wholly confined to Pal-
mer and Koonitz. Nearly every Democrat
interviewed spoke most emphatically
against such nonsense, and some gave the
soldier-hating papers very hard ribs.The New York Sun, which is none too
well disposed toward the veterans, summed
up its investigations as follows:The movement for the withdrawal of the Demo-
cratic members of the Grand Army of the Re-
public on the ground that the organization is used
to further the political ends of the Republican
party seems to meet with little sympathy outside of In-
diana, where it began. The revolt has been organ-
ized in Indianapolis, but in no other State are steps
in that direction yet reported, and interviews by
Sun correspondents with many prominent Demo-
crats in the Grand Army show that they will not
join the revolt, and that they have no idea that it
will be successful. They distinctly contrasted the
assertion of Gen. Palmer that the Grand Army is
an adjunct of the Republican party, and deny that
as an organization it has any partisan bias. They
also say there is not room for another successful
organization of veterans. In fact, the interview
below seems to indicate that, as a rule, the re-
sults of the election have not shaken the fealty
of the Democratic veterans to the Grand Army,
which, however its individual members may vote,
was organized and is maintained, they believe, for
non-political purposes.In Baltimore, Gen. John W. Horn, Past
Department Commander of Maryland, and a
prominent Democratic politician, told the
interviewers that there was not the slightest
fear of any split in that Department.There is a strict rule, in fact one of the most
important of our organized laws, which absolutely
forbids any introduction of politics into Grand
Army matters. You might as well accuse the Ma-
sonic Order or the Protestant Episcopal Church of
being proscribed to politics as to accuse the Grand
Army of the Republic. The latter is simply a charitable
and beneficent organization to look after the sick,
the helpless, the widows and orphans of old sol-
diers. I have been unanimously elected to the
highest offices, and I have always been known as
an ardent Democrat. I don't think the Indiana
movement will be far-reaching."No seceding Democrats could be found
among the comrades in Philadelphia.Col. Robert P. Dechert, of Meade Post, a
Democrat, and City Controller, said:"I do not think that the withdrawal of one man
from a great body like the Grand Army can cause
any disunion in the ranks. Nobody Gen. Palmer,
granted for his defeat for Governor, resigned,
thinking that the soldiers were the means of elect-
ing the Republican candidate. Politics never enter
into Grand Army of the Republic matters, and I
think the General has no reason to believe the sol-
diers were treacherous to him."Dr. Kingston Goddard, of Post 2, and a
prominent Democrat, said he was strongly
opposed to the formation of any new associa-
tion. "It would be rank folly."Col. Charles E. Tippet, Commander of
the Hancock Veterans Association, which
made such a fine display in the great Cleve-
land parade in New York, said to his officers,
with reference to the report that his organiza-
tion was to head the new movement:"It is false in every particular, and I want you
others to say to your companies that every rumor
they may hear about such an undertaking must be
treated with the contempt it deserves. If Gen.
Palmer has a grievance with the Grand Army of
the Republic, he is not to be comforted by our
fidelity. We have just buried our hero, have got
back from Salt River, and are feeling in pretty
good shape. Nearly every member of our associa-
tion belongs to the Grand Army, and we wish it
everywhere. Not only our members have a right
to drag the name of the Hancock Veterans As-
sociation into any scheme, for all of our business
must be brought here."Maj. Moses Veale, a Democrat, and ex-
Health Officer of Philadelphia, told the re-
porter of the Philadelphia Times:"I think that Gen. Palmer was defeated by the
soldier vote, but not by the Grand Army of the
Republic as an organization. Politics do not enter
into the Grand Army. It is against their laws. I
think the soldier element defeated both Palmer
and Cleveland. The soldier element is not a po-
litical element, but at the same time a political
power. They hold a kind of balance of power in
the Northern States. There are 600,000 soldier
votes in the Northern States alone, and the soldier
votes of the United States control the election of
the soldiers' sons, amounts to about 1,000,000.The report of secession from the Grand Army
of the Republic is without any foundation in fact.
The Grand Army men are too closely united in
friendship through memory of their associations
in the war to permit politics to make any split in
their organization.The soldier element will favor either of the
political parties that is most in favor of the soldier
as a soldier element. Mr. Cleveland's formation
of his Cabinet was not as most soldiers expected it
would be. They supposed that Hancock, McClel-
lan, Slocum, Stoneman or some leading soldier
would be appointed to his Cabinet, and that the
soldier element would be recognized not only in
the Cabinet, but generally. That's where the Re-
publicans have shown wise judgment in the past.
"I think the Republicans are smart to recognizethe soldier, and that it was bad politics on the part
of the Democrats to have done so. There are 400,000
organized soldiers in the United States, and in
Pennsylvania alone there are over 500 Grand Army
Posts. Quay knew the worth of the soldier ele-
ment, and he looked after it in the last campaign.
Politics was not dragged into Post rooms, but the
work was done quietly and yet openly. The sol-
dier vote in Brooklyn numbers between 25,000 and
30,000, and Harrison got the great majority of that
vote."The soldier element expected that where Cleve-
land displaced a soldier from the head of a De-
partment a Democratic soldier would be appointed
to take his place. This Mr. Cleveland did not do.
Take the appointments in this city, for example.
Col. Snowdon was removed from the Mint. Mr.
Fox, who wasn't a soldier, succeeded him. Gen.
Hixkoke was displaced at the Postoffice. Mr.
Harritt, who was not a soldier, was put in his po-
sition. Gen. Hartman was retired from the Custom
House. A few days later, who was not a sol-
dier, was appointed his successor. Maj. Nevins,
who commanded a battery during the war, and who
was Naval Officer, was removed and Mr.
Plumer, who was not a soldier, was put in his
place. Maj. Moore was removed as Chief Appraiser
of Merchandise, and Mr. Baker, who was not a sol-
dier, succeeded him. This was pretty much the
same proportion throughout the country. The sol-
dier was either forgotten or purposely ignored."The New York World's correspondents
could find no signs of defection in Washing-
ton, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Syracuse, Albany,
Boston, Philadelphia, Columbus, Cleveland
or Chicago, and very few in New York and
Brooklyn. In Indianapolis the only seceder
found was Koonitz. The other comrades who
were interviewed spoke thus:Gen. George T. McGinnis: "Gen. Palmer is do-
ing a very unwise thing, and if he persists it will
result in a flat failure and disastrously to the Demo-
cratic cause. I am surprised that Palmer, with his good
sense, should have done this. He is a very able
man, and he would have been all right. Gen. Palmer is
acting badly. He will not mind 50 G. A. R. men
to endorse his course in this city."Maj. James R. Ross: "Gen. Palmer forces me to
believe that if the G. A. R. had voted for the other
fellow in Illinois it would have been all right. Feeling
as he does, he should have withdrawn long ago."John Leonard: "Politics has not entered the
G. A. R., Palmer to the contrary notwithstanding,
and he can do the organization no harm."
When an Associated Press reporter ap-
proached Col. Matson on the subject of his
being at the head of the movement to or-
ganize a Democratic G. A. R., he said he knew
nothing of it except what he had read in the
newspapers, and consequently is not at the
head or at any other part of the affair. The
other statement in the dispatch—that his
friends expect him to follow Gen. Palmer's
course and withdraw from the G. A. R.—he said was also without foundation.
He never was a member of the organization, and
therefore cannot withdraw.In Chicago the New York Times' corre-
spondent hunted up Gen. M. R. Wallace, a
representative Democrat, but got this cold
comfort out of him:"I am for the organization. If political interests
are dragged into it, then all I can say is we shall
lose the organization.""I do not precisely know what are the grounds of
Gen. Palmer's trouble with the organization, but I
do know that whatever they are there has been no
disposition developed here by Democratic mem-
bers of the Grand Army of the Republic to follow
his example. No movement, or any indications of
a movement to organize a rival association has
shown itself here, nor is there any disposition, or
even lurking disposition, that I know of to say-
thing of the kind. Since the election I have never
heard any expressions of dissatisfaction made by
the Democratic members of the Posts. I have
talked with several old soldiers who are Demo-
crats, and they have not even hinted at such a
thing as withdrawing from the organization. A
member of the organization who comes from
La Salle County, and that with a fair vote is a
Democratic County, tells me that there is no feel-
ing of the sort among the Posts of that County
either. I do not think there is much in it, gen-
erally, and here in Cook County there is absolutely
nothing."From Chicago, the New York Sun's cor-
respondent reported:Gen. Herman Lieb, who has been a member of
the Grand Army since it was organized, says that
there is not material enough left in the country to
form an ex-soldiers' association distinct from the
Grand Army. Gen. Lieb says that the Grand Army
is not a partisan organization. He says that
the Grand Army is a charitable organization, and
that the members are Republicans, who take
an active part in every campaign. There has
been no attempt to bulldoze or influence the Demo-
cratic members at any election; and while Gen. Palmer
may have had good reason for stepping down,
Gen. Lieb, a staunch Democrat, said that the
Democratic members, as a rule, have no cause
for seceding from the organization.If the Democrats were to organize an independent
society, Gen. Lieb says, the action would merely
make the Grand Army more popular, and the
which would thrive except in the heat of
great campaigns. Other Democratic veterans in
this city view the situation in about the same light
as Gen. Lieb sees it.This seems to dispose of Gen. Palmer,
Comrade Koonitz, and the "fatal defection"
very thoroughly.

THE G.A.R. UNIFORM.

The periodical discussion of the appropri-
ateness of the G.A.R. uniform has been be-
gun by Horace Greeley Post, No. 577, of New
York, which has expressed its dissatisfaction
at the present garb. It declares that it re-
sembles too nearly the uniforms of conductors,
hotel-porters, steamboat and railroad
employees, elevator men, and postoffice and
customhouse officials. There is much to be
said on this subject. We would welcome a
change that would make a broader distinc-
tion between the appearance of the G.A.R.
uniform and that of the attire of the classes
mentioned, but this differentiation is not an
easy thing to accomplish. Of course the
color must be blue, and must approximate
somewhat in cut to that worn in the service
of which we are so proud. But this approxi-
mation brings the similarity to the objection-
able uniforms. They are all modeled on that
of the United States Army. Again, the
uniform must be made so that when the
buttons and other descriptive insignia are re-
moved it will resemble ordinary street
clothing so closely as to enable comrades
to wear their uniforms every day. This again
brings us upon lines closely similar to
those of the porters and railroad employees.
A great deal of objection has been made to
the slouch hat, and it has been denounced
as ugly and unbecoming. This we do not
believe. A slouch hat is as becoming and
comfortable for a man as wear, and it is
the one article of attire which differs radically
from that of the classes above mentioned.
They all wear caps or helmets. Another
thing, the Grand Army uniform, like the
Grand Army badge, has become associated
in the popular mind with our Order, and it
is very questionable whether it is wise to
make any radical changes at present which
will disturb the minds of the people in re-
gard to it, and make the association of the
two less marked.

INFLUENCE OF THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

The comrades have seen the influence ex-
erted by THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE in the re-
cent elections. Unquestionably it contributed
very largely to the defeat of Messrs. Cleveland
and Matson and the election of their com-
petitors. Politicians generally recognize
this, and the comrades themselves write us
to this effect from all parts of the country.
This is a matter upon which the comrades
themselves can be congratulated even more
than we. It means very much more to
them than to us. The greater the recog-
nition of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE's power
and influence the better it will be for them.
It is their only champion, their only advo-
cate, their only spokesman. It voices their
wishes, emphasizes their complaints, defends
them against their assailants, and maintains
their claims upon the country. Now, more
than ever, will the politicians and the peo-
ple look to it to do this. They will be guided
by it to a larger extent in according justice
to the soldiers and their dependent ones, just
as they are now more than ever disposed to
accede to the wishes of veterans since the
magnificent exhibitions of unanimity among
them at their Department and National En-
campments.It is, therefore, to the direct interest of
veterans that THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE be
built up to the greatest extent possible. Its
influence is based upon the support, moral
and financial, that it receives from the sol-
diers. The more of them that are on its sub-
scription rolls the more potent will its voice
be in influencing legislation and securing
their rights. Every additional subscriber is
an addition of power to its utterances. It
is an addition to the length of the lever by
which veterans can move Congress and the
country to give them their rights.The best service that can be done in pro-
moting the cause of the soldiers is the
strengthening of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE's
influence for good. Let every comrade whose
heart is devoted to helping his comrades
take the first and most effective steps by
exerting himself to increase THE NATIONAL
TRIBUNE's circulation. It is a stronger and
more effective advocate than delegations,
associations or paid agents, for it is always
here in Washington, always on the alert,
always fearless and incorruptible in dis-
charging its duties to the veterans, and the
service costs them for whom it is rendered
nothing. They get for their money a paper
which they all testify is the most interest-
ing and valuable of any published.Now, comrades, let every one do his
duty, and the circulation of the THE NA-
TIONAL TRIBUNE will be doubled before
Congress meets.

GEN. SLOCUM'S GRIEVANCE.

Gen. H. W. Slocum was promptly inter-
viewed by all the New York papers as soon
as Gen. Palmer announced his withdrawal,
and he unhesitatingly affirmed his belief
that the Grand Army of the Republic is
controlled by partisan influences. His sole
basis for this belief was his own defeat for
Commander-in-Chief. It requires a good-
sized bump of self-esteem to make such an
assertion. Because the comrades of the
G. A. R. did not at his first demand hand over
to him the principal office in their gift, he de-
nounced them as partisans and has sulked
ever since. Gen. Slocum's candidacy before
the St. Louis Encampment was the first
knowledge that the large majority of the
comrades had that he was a G. A. R. man at
all. On the other hand, there were candi-
dates who had been earnest workers in the
G. A. R. from the very date of its organiza-
tion, and had borne the heat and burden of
its upbuilding. They had been promoted
from one office to another, and had num-
erous adherents who earnestly desired their
elevation to the head of the Order. Suddenly
Gen. Slocum was projected upon the scene,
his candidacy resting not on any service to
the Order or long association with it, but on
the grounds that he was a Major-General of
distinguished service, and a Democrat, and
that the Department of New York had not
had a Commander-in-Chief for a number of
years. These reasons had their proper in-
fluence with the comrades, but the great
majority naturally preferred to give the
highest honor in the Order to some man who
had been a long and worthy laborer in the
vineyard. That was all there was of it. Had
Gen. Slocum labored as long and as faith-
fully for the upbuilding of the Order as Cap-
tain Rea and Maj. Warner had, his candidacy
for the chief honor would have been in better
shape than theirs, for then the fact that New
York had not had a Commander-in-Chief for
a number of years would probably have con-
trolled the election. His having been a
Major-General and his being a Democrat
were subordinate considerations.ONE of the New York papers had a start-
ling head:

"REVOLT IN THE G.A.R."

This was followed by three columns of dis-
patches from the principal points in the
country. But instead of these confirming
the revolt, every one, with three exceptions,
said there was no such thing; that the ut-
most harmony and good feeling prevailed in
the Order. No one was thinking of starting
a schism, but, on the contrary, was decidedly
hostile to any such a thing. The three ex-
ceptions were Gen. John M. Palmer, who is
disgruntled by his defeat for Governor of
Illinois; Gen. H. W. Slocum, who is still
sore over his failure to be elected Comm-
ander-in-Chief, and George W. Koonitz, of In-
dianapolis, who wants to get a little repu-
tation in the papers as the leader of a faction
in the Order. This was all the "revolt"
that the most assiduous efforts of the papers
could develop.It is a duty you owe to your comrades to get at
least one new subscriber for THE NATIONAL
TRIBUNE.

WHAT WILL CONGRESS DO?

The second and last session of the 50th
Congress began last Monday. The eyes of
all veterans are turned anxiously upon it.
What will it do in the few weeks of ex-
istence that yet remain to it?
Will the House of Representatives perse-
vere in its policy of stubborn inaction,
which characterized the dreary length of the
first session, or will it, mindful of the sharp
rebuke at the polls, take some practi-
cal steps of justice and relief for the veter-
ans?Beyond question the members of the ma-
jority fully understand that they owe the
loss of their President and their control of
that body to the resentment of the veter-
ans expressed at the polls.Will they attempt to bring forth fruits
meet for repentance by passing the bills
that the great body of the veterans have
been asking for years, or will they at-
tempt to punish their overthrowers by a
still further delay of justice?We incline to the former. There is now
no longer any excuse for failing to under-
stand that the veterans are thoroughly
united on these measures, and are a unit
on the question of holding our lawmakers
responsible for their non-enactment. These
gentlemen are wise in their day and gener-
ation. There are other elections to come. It
will be much shrewder policy to propitiate
the veterans before these come off by the
passage of the legislation they have asked
for, than to further incense them by a con-
tinuance of a refusal, and allow the Repub-
lican majority in the next House to make
credit by their passage.There is no repentance in the grave,"
and unless the Democratic majority in the
House can straighten up its record with
the soldiers in the next 85 days its oppor-
tunity will be gone for two years, at least.We are going to believe that this session
will pass some of the much-desired pension
legislation. We will neglect nothing to
bring about this glad consummation, and, as
usual, be in the forefront of the struggle
for it.One thing is sure: The day of relief is
close at hand. If this Congress does not act,
the one already elected will.Have you done your duty in getting one more
subscriber for THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE?
You should do this, for it is the best way to help
your comrades.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE PENSION BILL.

We call for renewed consideration of THE
NATIONAL TRIBUNE Service Pension Bill,
which we republish this week. This has
been generally pronounced by far the best,
the most wide reaching and just general
pension law ever formulated and introduced
into Congress. It goes very much farther
toward doing the saviors of the country jus-
tice than any other, and above all it is in-
tensely practical. It does not provide a com-
plicated and time-wasting system, which
would be a virtual denial of pensions to
a large body of veterans through the de-
lays of circumlocution. It cuts through
all these with the sharp sword of
common sense, and stipulates that all
those entitled to pensions shall be placed on
the roll within two years from the passage of
the act. It provides the money and the
clerical force to do this. This makes sure
that every veteran will receive his pension
so that it will do him good for a term of
years, and not be withheld as "a parting
benefaction," as Mr